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FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SHLAUDEMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

1. SUMMARY: I TESTIFIED ON U.S. TRADE POLICY TOWARD CUBA AND SPOKE IN NEW YORK. WE DISCUSSED PANAMA WITH KEY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS. BENTSEN AMENDMENT STALLED AGAIN. WE ARE DEFERRING COMMENT ON PERUVIAN POLITICAL SITUATION. INCIDENTS ON SALVADOR/HONDURAN BORDER CLOSELY WATCHED AT OAS. HEW RYAN IS STILL TRAVELING, BILL LUERS TOOK A QUICK TRIP TO MEXICO AND JOE GRUNWALD SPOKE IN FLORIDA.

2. I TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND COMMERCE ON JULY 22. THE SUBCOMMITTEE ORGANIZED THIS SINGLE DAY OF HEARINGS TO REVIEW US POLICY ON TRADE WITH CUBA. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF TWO US CONSULTING FIRMS WHICH PROVIDE SERVICES TO PROSPECTIVE US TRADING PARTNERS OF CUBA OCCASIONED THE REVIEW. REPRESENTATIVES FROM TREASURY AND COMMERCE ALSO

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APPEARED. I REITERATED AND EXPLAINED ASPECTS OF THE

RESTRICTIVE POLICY ON TRADE WITH CUBA AND NOTED THAT NO CHANGES ARE RECOMMENDED AT THIS TIME. CONGRESSMAN FASCELL AND FRASER WERE ESPECIALLY SUPPORTIVE. FRASER WAS CRITICAL OF CUBA ON GUESS WHAT? -- HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. ON JULY 20 THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ARA, AND TWO OTHER BUREAUS INVITED MEDIA AND FOREIGN POLICY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VFW, AMERICAN LEGION, AMERICAN FARM BUREAU, NATIONAL GRANGE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO TALK ABOUT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES OF CENTRAL CONCERN. A GOOD PART OF THE AFTERNOON WAS SPENT DISCUSSING THE PROS AND CONS OF A NEW TREATY WITH PANAMA. THE MESSAGE FROM THESE ORGANIZATIONS WAS CLEARLY THAT THEIR CONSTITUENTS DO NOT SEE THE NEED FOR NEGOTIATING A TREATY THAT WILL EVENTUALLY TURN OVER RIGHTS AND CONTROL TO PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT. THE GRASS ROOTS REMAINS CONVINCED, ACCORDING TO THESE LEADERS THAT THE PANAMA CANAL SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE OURS JUST AS LOUISIANA IS OURS SINCE WE BOUGHT IT. THE VFW SUGGESTED THAT WE MIGHT DO BETTER IF WE BASED OUR ARGUMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING GENEROUS.

4. SENATOR BENTSEN'S AMENDMENT TO A MINOR TARIFF BILL WHICH HAS AS ITS OBJECTIVE THE LIFTING OF GSP EXCLUSION FOR VENEZUELA, ECUADOR AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY STALLED PENDING PASSAGE OF THE TAX BILL. WHEN SENATOR LONG FINISHES WITH THE HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL TAX BILL, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT UNOPPOSED SENATE PASSAGE WILL OCCUR. THEN WE CAN BEGIN PLANNING FOR LIKELY DIFFICULT TIME IN THE HOUSE.

5. THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE SOUTHERN CONE IS OF DEEPENING CONCERN. THE REFUGEE COMMUNITY IN ARGENTINA IS TERRIFIED AND THERE IS INCREASING PRESSURE FROM CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC TO DEVELOP A PAROLE PROGRAM FOR CHILEANS AND URUGUAYANS IN ARGENTINA. THE SECRETARY HAS SENT A LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE CHILE PAROLE PROGRAM THAT WOULD TAKE CARE OF SOME CHILEANS, URUGUAYANS AND BOLIVIANS IN ARGENTINA AS WELL.

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6. WE ARE ALSO FOCUSING ON THE DANGERS TO REGIONAL SECURITY INHERENT IN SOVIET MILITARY SALES TO PERU, THE GROWING IMBALANCE OF FORCES BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE, AND INTERACTION BETWEEN CHILEAN, PERUVIAN, AND OUR OWN POLICIES. THE ABRUPT OUSTER OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE OTHER KEY LEFTISTS ON JULY 17 INDICATES THAT THERE MAY BE A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT IN PERUVIAN POLICY IN THE OFFING-

WE ARE DEFERRING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE INTERIOR POLITICAL SITUATION.

7. A SHOOTING FRAY TOOK PLACE JULY 13 ON THE SALVADORAN-HONDURAN BORDER IN WHICH TWO SALVADOREANS WERE KILLED. EL SALVADOR HAS SENT NOTES TO COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA, AND NICARAGUA (THESE THREE COUNTRIES ARE GUARANTORS OF THE

1970 SAN JOSE AGREEMENT) ASKING THAT THEY FIND A FORMULA TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT FOR DEMILITARIZED ZONES AND A MUTUAL PULLBACK OF TROOPS. THE GUARANTOR STATES ARE MEETING IN MANAGUA JULY 24 IN AN ATTEMPT TO QUIET THE SITUATION. THE SALVADOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFED THE OAS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON JULY 19. HONDURAS HAS REQUESTED THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN TO SEND AN INVESTIGATING TEAM TO THE SCENE. THE COMMITTEE SENT A TELEGRAM TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF SALVADOR AND HONDURAS ON JULY 22 CALLING FOR GREATER EFFORTS TO KEEP THE PEACE AND ANNOUNCING FORMATION OF A FIVE-MEMBER SUBCOMMITTEE (INCLUDING THE US AMBASSADOR) THAT STANDS READY TO GO TO THE AREA IF THE EFFORTS OF THE GUARANTOR STATES FAIL.

8. I SPOKE TO A LUNCHEON FRIDAY IN NEW YORK. IT WAS ORGANIZED BY THE PAN AMERICAN AND BOLIVARIAN SOCIETIES IN COMMEMORATION OF BOLIVAR'S BIRTH, THE BICENTENNIAL AND PAN-AMERICANISM. HEW RYAN IS ON THE LAST LEG OF HIS SWING THROUGH THE SOUTHERN CONE AND PERU. BILL LUERS TOOK A SHORT TRIP TO MEXICO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MEETINGS AND ALSO TO DISCUSS THE ILLEGAL MIGRANT SITUATION. JOSEPH GRUNWALD SPOKE TO TOP EXECUTIVES OF AMERICAN CYANAMID. HE FOUND TWO INTERESTING REACTIONS: (A) CRITICISM OF APPARENT LACK OF LONG TERM PLANNING BY STATE REGARDING U.S. RELATIONS TOWARD LDC'S
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AND (B) AMBIVALENCE AMONG THE MANAGERS BETWEEN LOYALTIES TO THE U.S. TNC HOME OFFICE GLOBAL DECISION MAKING AND SYMPATHY TO INTERESTS OF HOST COUNTRIES.

9. AMBASSADORIAL TRAVEL. I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR DEPARTMENT APPROVAL BEFORE A CHIEF OF MISSION MAY TRAVEL OUTSIDE HIS COUNTRY OF ASSIGNMENT. THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY TOWARD LAXNESS IN THIS REGARD, PLACING US IN THE POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING POSITION OF NOT KNOWING WHERE OUR AMBASSADORS ARE OR WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE MISSION. I MUST INSIST ON STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR APPROVAL TO OUT-OF-THE COUNTRY TRAVEL. ROBINSON

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